



December 2001

This is your newsletter. To submit information, update, or ask questions, please contact Audrey Smolkin at 215-861-4794 or by e-mail at: asmolkin@hrsa.gov

LATE BREAKING NEWS

Greetings CAPpers,

Some program updates:

REDESIGN: We are thrilled to report that we have received over 35 applications for various forms of re-design work. Please note: If you sent in an application and have not received such an e-mail, please contact me immediately. We will be reviewing applications and making selection decisions over the next few weeks and will be back in touch with selections by the end of December. Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

QUARTERLY STATUS REPORTS: These reports were due at the end of November. The report should be submitted to your field office project officer. Please be in touch with them if you have questions.

EXTENSION FUNDING: We recognize that many of the grantees funded in March 2001 have questions about no cost extensions. We are currently in the process of making decisions about that issue and will be back in touch with more information as soon as it is available.

IDENTITY CRISIS: As the CAP family has grown, Central office staff is having a hard time keeping track of all grantees. As an example of our potential problems: there is a grantee applicant named El Rio Santa Cruz in Tucson, which operates as the Pima CAP which is not to be confused with El Rito, NM which is the original applicant for Sangre de Cristo in Santa Fe, NM. Sunrise Community Health Center (which, of course, should not be confused with Sunset Park in Brooklyn) is located Greeley, CO (not to be confused once again with Greeley Co, KS) and is operating under the project name of North Colorado Health Alliance. **PLEASE make sure any communication with CAP includes your official collaborative name, grant number, and project director name. Your official name is the name listed on your Notice of Grant award.** This will speed our response time to you and reduce our chances of insanity.

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WEB RESOURCES

TRAVEL AND TA: Just a reminder that technical assistance funds are available to hire consultants, travel to other communities, and more. Please be in touch if you would like more information. Please note that if you have received such resources you must fill out a TA evaluation form.

Have a peaceful holiday season, the next CAPStone will resume in early January!

Thanks, Audrey

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EMERGENCY RESPONSE ISSUES

Emergency and Bioterrorism Response Plans

We are still interested in collecting examples of effective emergency and bioterrorism response plans. There is particular interest in plans relevant to rural and semi-rural areas. The BPHC hopes to eventually compile a set of appropriate examples for distribution; requests for confidentiality will be honored. Please submit your plans to asmolkin@hrsa.gov.

CDC Bioterrorism Conference Broadcast Schedule

The CDC will host a series of combination broadcast/webcast/conference calls on bioterrorism threats weekly from now until the end of the year. Each broadcast is accessible via the CDC's Public Health Training Network at <http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/phtn>. Previous webcasts are also archived at the site. All broadcasts are available via satellite, Web, telephone, or videotape.

Following is a list of recent and upcoming broadcasts:

- **October 18, 2001:** Anthrax: What Every Clinician Should Know
- **November 1, 2001:** Anthrax: What Every Clinician Should Know, Part II
- **November 9, 2001:** CDC Responds: Coping With Bioterrorism – The Role of the Laboratorian
- **November 16, 2001:** CDC Responds: Bioterrorism and the Healthcare Epidemiology/Infection Control Team
- **November 29, 2001:** CDC Responds: Clinical Diagnosis and Management of Anthrax – Lessons Learned
- **December 6, 2001:** CDC Responds: Risk Communication and Bioterrorism
- **December 13, 2001:** Smallpox: What Every Clinician Should Know

For more information, please visit the website or call 1-800-41-TRAIN.

CAP TA CALLS

Technical Assistance Calls

Technical assistance calls for grantees continue to be held every other Tuesday from 2 to 3 PM EST. The schedule for November and December appears below. To register for the calls, please contact Angelique Raptakis at 301-468-6006 Ext. 501 or at araptakis@mac1988.com with your name and contact information at least one week prior to the call.

CAP TA Calls

Date	Topic
December 11	Analyzing Emergency Room Data John Billings, JD, Associate Professor of Health Policy and Public Service and Director of the Center for Health and Public Service Research at New York University will facilitate this call. John will discuss analyzing emergency room data to evaluate access barriers to outpatient care and to assess the performance of ambulatory care delivery systems.
January 8	MIS Specific topical information will be announced closer to the date.
January 22	Measuring the Uninsured Please join Lynn Blewett of the State Health Access Data Assistance Center, University of Minnesota School of Public Health, in a discussion about national survey data on the uninsured.

Shortly after you register, you will receive a call-in number and an access code. If you do not receive this call-in information by the Monday before the call, please contact Angelique. Agendas and related materials for TA calls will be emailed in advance of the call.

Please note: Following the December 11 call, there will be a brief winter break. TA calls will resume Tuesday, January 8, 2002.

With the exception of calls related to legal issues, all TA calls are summarized and posted on the CAP website (www.capcommunity.hrsa.gov). Legal issue briefs are posted on the site under legal issues and require a password, which may be obtained by emailing asmolkin@hrsa.gov. You may also request an audiotape copy of any previous calls by contacting Angelique.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES AND AWARDS

CDC Offers Research Grants

Deadline: Letters of intent: March 1, 2002;

Application: June 1, 2002.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently announced the availability of \$1 million in funds for research that develops interventions to prevent adolescent sexually transmitted diseases, HIV, and pregnancy. According to the CDC, the interventions should be “multi-level...integrated, interactive, and synergistic.”

Applications should include adolescents from 11 to 16 years of age. The goal of the program is to develop interventions that change over time to become age-appropriate.

Continuation funds are expected to be available for project timeframes of up to eight years. Public and private nonprofit organizations and local governments and their agencies are all eligible for funds.

The program announcement is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/02008.htm>.

Johnson & Johnson and Partners Offer Grants on Health Access

Deadline: January 11, 2002

The Johnson & Johnson Community Health Care Program in partnership with the National Council of La Raza, John Hopkins School of

Public Health, and Morehouse School of Medicine, is offering grants for nonprofit community/public health organizations proposing creative and effective ways of promoting access to health care to the medically underserved. Applicants must be located in and provide direct service to San Francisco (CA), San Angelo (TX), Washington (DC), New York City, New Jersey or Puerto Rico. Awards are \$75,000 for one year, however, if first year goals are achieved a second year award of \$75,000 is also possible. For more information, visit <http://www.msm.edu/grantopps/chpm.htm>.

State Coverage Initiatives

Application Deadline: July 1, 2002

The State Coverage Initiatives program, a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation program, is accepting applications for its program helping states develop and implement policies expanding health insurance coverage. Small grants up to \$150,000 are available for activities in the early stages of the planning process of expanding coverage. These grants are reviewed on a rolling basis. Large grants of up to \$1.5 million are available for states choosing a coverage expansion mechanism and seeking help in designing and implementing the coverage system. Proposals are due July 1, 2002 and will be awarded December 1, 2002. For

more information, call Vickie Gates (202) 292-6700 or go to <http://statecoverage.net/grants.htm>

RWJ Foundation Offers Dental Care Grants

Deadline: December 21, 2001

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has announced a new grant program designed to help increase access to dental care for underserved populations. The new \$15 million dollar program, *Pipeline, Profession, and Practice: Community-Based Dental Education Program*, will provide funding to up to ten dental schools for five years to develop community-based clinical programs that provide care to underserved populations and to increase recruitment and retention of low-income and underrepresented minority students.

Detailed information about the program and the application process is available in the Call for Proposals area of the RWJF Web site as well as at the program Web site (<http://dentalpipeline.columbia.edu>) or by contacting the School of Dental & Oral Surgery Columbia University: Pipeline, Profession and Practice: Community-Based Dental Education, 630 West 168th Street, New York, NY 10032, Tel: (212) 305-3288, E-mail: kdh2002@columbia.edu

CONFERENCES, PROGRAMS, AND OTHER NEWS

National Summit on Children and Youth With Special Needs

The 2010 EXPRESS, a National Summit on Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs and Their Families, will take place from December 12-13 at the Hilton Washington in Washington, D.C.

The event is sponsored by the Department of Health and Human Services' Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB), the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Family Voices (FV), and the March of Dimes. The summit will bring together community leaders, members of Federal and State agencies, health care providers, and other individuals interested in creating a culturally-competent, comprehensive system of health care services for all children and youth with special needs. The program supports the HHS effort known as Healthy People 2010, a set of health objectives for the

Nation to achieve over the next 10 years (<http://www.health.gov/healthypeople/>).

The two-day summit will include plenary sessions, breakout sessions, a cyber café, and an exhibit hall. A newly developed 10-Year Action Plan will also be distributed. Please visit <https://www.psava.com/internet/register/conferences/MCHB/> or call 1-877-374-5907 for more information. Email regarding the conference specifically may also be sent to 2010Express@psava.com. For more information about the MCHB, please visit their website at <http://mchb.hrsa.gov>.

HHS and ABC Radio Launch Public Health Campaign

The Department of Health and Human Services and ABC Radio networks have partnered to educate African Americans about public health programs, local health care providers, and steps

to leading a healthier life. The campaign, entitled “Closing the Health Gap”, includes 240 ABC Radio affiliates that reach 93 percent of the African American population. In addition to the radio spots, the campaign currently includes an extensive website and may also include a one-day event next spring.

The campaign was created to help address the problem of disproportionate numbers of African Americans suffering from diabetes, heart disease and other medical problems. For more information, please visit the Closing the Health Gap website: <http://www.healthgap.omhrc.gov/>.

REPORTS AND ISSUE BRIEFS

CDC Releases National Health Status Report

CDC’s National Center for Health Statistics recently released its 25th annual report on the health status of the Nation, “Health, United States, 2001 With Urban and Rural Health Chartbook”.

The report details national trends in health statistics on many topics, some of which include birth and death rates, morbidity and health status, health personnel and facilities, and health care financing. Also included are 148 trend tables focused on the following subject areas: health status and determinants, health care utilization, health care resources, and health care expenditures. This report is the first to examine public health status by level of urbanization for key U.S. communities. The Chartbook provides detailed analyses of population characteristics, health risk factors, health status indicators, and health care access measures for residents of counties grouped by five urbanization levels. Patterns by region of the country are also examined.

The complete report may be viewed on the Web at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/pubs/pubd/hus/hus.htm>. A soft-bound book or CD-ROM may also be purchased from the Government Printing Office (GPO): <http://bookstore.gpo.gov/index.html>. Highlights of the report can be found at www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/pubs/pubd/hus/highlights.htm.

Communities Play Key Role In Public Outreach To Insure Children

A new issue brief from the Center for Studying Health System Change (HSC) examines the important role that local community groups play in enrolling eligible children into public health insurance programs. The HSC’s recent site visits to 12 nationally representative communities revealed that schools, employers, religious organizations, health departments, providers, and community groups can all

provide valuable assistance with public outreach and can actually help increase enrollment. Impending reductions in federal SCHIP funding and recent state budget cuts could threaten future outreach efforts, making community involvement even more important.

For additional information or to read the report in its entirety, please visit <http://www.hschange.org/CONTENT/377/>.

Community Health Plans Profiled In New Report

Community Voices, a 13-site, multi-year initiative of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, has released a report, “Community-based Health Plans for the Uninsured: Expanding Access, Enhancing Dignity.” The report examines how five U.S. communities developed health plans to cover residents who did not qualify for public health programs and could not afford private health insurance. Each health plan had the same goal: to promote primary and preventive care and reduce expensive inpatient and emergency care. However, each community had a unique approach to achieving this goal. The report details the background and development of each program, along with the obstacles faced and lessons learned during program implementation. It provides a valuable resource for other organizations attempting to establish similar plans in their communities. The five health plans profiled in the report include:

- Alameda County, CA’s *Family Care*
- Bernalillo County, NM’s *UNM Care Plan*
- El Paso County, TX’s *Primary Care Plan*
- Ingham County, MI’s *Ingham Health Plan*
- North Carolina’s *FirstConnection*

For more information about Community Voices and to read the entire report, visit their website at <http://www.communityvoices.org>.

WEB RESOURCES

NIH Announces New Website Resource

The National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) recently announced the release of their new website located at http://ncmhd.nih.gov/ncmhd_splash2.html.

The website showcases research and initiatives focused on improving the health status of minority Americans and other underserved populations. The Center's programs are explained in detail, along with press releases, conference information and an extensive list of related Internet resources.

The mission of the NCMHD is to "lead, coordinate, support, and assess the NIH effort to reduce and ultimately eliminate health disparities." The Center will attempt to coordinate minority health disparities research and other programs at the NIH into a national health research agenda. It will award grants and contracts independently, but will continue to work with other NIH institutes and centers to support health disparities research, clinical research and training, and the dissemination of health information. Questions about the Center or its website may be directed to NCMHDInfo@od.nih.gov.

State Health Facts Online

State Health Facts Online is a free Internet resource designed to give journalists, state and federal policymakers, researchers, and the general public access to health policy information on all 50 states. Users can easily view information for a single state, or compare and rank data across all 50 states and the U.S. Information on more than 220 topics is displayed in tables and color-coded maps, and may be downloaded for custom analyses. State Health Facts Online is available at www.statehealthfacts.kff.org or through the Foundation's primary website

at www.kff.org, where users can access all of the Kaiser Family Foundation's reports and analyses.

Online Immunization Information For Providers

The American Nurses Foundation recently released its new web resource for immunization information, entitled INNPOWER (Immunization Nursing Network Provider Outreach Web Education and Resources). The site includes information on vaccine safety, including 2001-2002 influenza vaccine information, an active listserv for current information, and a state-by-state directory. Educational information is also provided to help nurses and other providers accurately inform patients receiving vaccinations.

The main mission of the site is to help nurses become safe and effective providers of vaccine services. The site can be found at <http://www.innpower.org>.

Website Helps Determine Eligibility For State Assistance

The Texas Department of Human Services recently released a new Web-based tool that helps residents determine their own eligibility for more than 50 state assistance programs, including Medicaid and other medical assistance programs. The website, known as STARS (The State of Texas Assistance and Referral System), allows users to enter personal information such as household and financial data and then uses that information to generate a list of eligible programs. All personal information is kept completely confidential. The site provides guidance in both English and Spanish, and is designed to accommodate new as well as seasoned computer users. It is intended as an educational tool and does not currently provide online enrollment.

STARS is a component of the larger Texas Integrated Eligibility Redesign System Initiative, a project to replace current outdated systems with a new integrated system. For more information, please visit the STARS site at <http://www.txstars.net>.

WEB QUICKLIST

CAP

<http://www.capcommunity.hrsa.gov>

CDC Bioterrorism Broadcast Schedule

<http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/phtn>

CDC Research Grants

<http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/02008.htm>

State Coverage Initiatives Program

<http://statecoverage.net/grants.htm>

Johnson & Johnson Grants

<http://www.msm.edu/grantops/chpm.htm>

2010 Express Conference

<https://www.psava.com/internet/register/conferences/MCHB/>

Healthy People 2010

<http://www.health.gov/healthypeople>

Dental Grants

<http://dentalpipeline.columbia.edu>

Closing the Health Gap

<http://www.healthgap.omhrc.gov>

Texas STARS

<http://www.txstars.net>

Center for Studying Health System Change

<http://www.hschange.org>

Community Voices

<http://www.communityvoices.org>

INNPOWER Immunization Resource

<http://www.innpower.org>

CDC Health Status Report

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/pubs/pubd/hus/hus.htm>

Maternal and Child Health Bureau

<http://mchb.hrsa.gov>

National Center on Minority Health & Health Disparities

http://ncmhd.nih.gov/ncmhd_splash2.html